

GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

COLLEGE OF HEALTH, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE



WHAT CAN I DO WITH A GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT DEGREE?

The Geography, Geology and the Environment Department is for anyone who wants to understand our earth and how we live on it. Geographers and geoscientists can track pollution in our air and water, explore for valuable resources, prepare for the impacts of climate change on our society, or design policy to protect nature. They also can collaborate across nations and cultures, plan prosperous and sustainable communities, model and predict environmental processes, coordinate international ventures, or read the history of our planet, as well as analyze satellite data, design location-based apps and programs, or help businesses “go green.” We value field experiences, from examining landforms in our own backyard to traveling to places like the Bahamas, Newfoundland, Death Valley or Nicaragua.

GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT SRU

Our students choose between majoring in geography and environmental studies or environmental geosciences. Our environmental geoscience curriculum is an interdisciplinary science program, incorporating geology, chemistry, biology, physics and atmospheric science. The courses may have students using seismic data to explore for natural gas or to collecting air quality readings to identify pollution sources. A geography and environmental studies major will introduce students to the key processes shaping our physical environment, how human societies interact with that environment and how we can use technology to map and understand the world around us. Geography students may take on a project to make our campus more environmentally friendly or model the impacts of climate change on their community.

WHY CHOOSE GEOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT AT SRU?

- 1. Personal interaction:** With 15-30 students in our classes, students will get personalized attention from faculty and opportunities to develop close relationships with classmates.
- 2. Cutting-edge technology:** Our department strives to use the latest hardware and software to give students the skills they need for the most in-demand jobs.
- 3. Field experiences:** Students can't study the earth without getting out to see it, so we have multiple opportunities for field experiences built into individual classes and our program as a whole.
- 4. Projects and research with faculty:** Our department offers many opportunities to collaborate with faculty members on research that will expand experiences and skills. Our students frequently present their work at regional and national conferences.
- 5. Networking:** We have a wide network of alumni who can help students decide what career is right for them and to find employers looking for SRU graduates.

* Candidates completing this program are eligible to sit for the two-part Association State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) examination required for a Professional Geologist license in Pennsylvania. The first examination, Fundamentals of Geology, can be taken upon graduation. The second examination, Principles and Practices of Geology, can be taken after working for five years. Regulations for licensing vary by state and you are urged to check with the licensing board in the state you will be working.

MAJORS

- Environmental Geosciences (BA)
- Environmental Geosciences (BA) Pre-Masters of Education
- Environmental Geosciences (BS) w/ a concentration in Environmental Science
- Environmental Geosciences (BS) w/ a concentration in Geology*
- Geography (BS) w/ a concentration in Applied Geographic Technology
- Geography (BS) w/ a concentration in Environmental Studies and Sustainability
- Geography (BS) w/ a concentration in Global Studies
- Environmental Geosciences (BS) Pre-Masters of Education

MINORS AND CERTIFICATES

- Minor in Environmental Science
- Minor in Geography
- Minor in Geographic Information Technology
- Minor in Geology
- Minor in Geophysics
- Minor in Meteorology
- Certificate in Geographic Information Science
- Certificate in Sustainability

ACCELERATED PROGRAM

- MS in Sustainability from Chatham University

Slippery Rock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Geography, Geology, and the Environment students have completed internships at various locations including:

- Department of Environmental Protection, Philadelphia, PA
- National Park Service, Gates of the Arctic, AK
- Cabot Oil and Gas, Pittsburgh, PA
- Altoona Water Authority, Altoona, PA
- Kappe and Associates, Monroeville, PA
- Cape Cod National Seashore, Wellfleet, MA
- Consol Energy Inc., Pittsburgh, PA
- Environmental Data Resources, Milford, CT
- Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh PA

CAREER OUTCOMES

Environmental Geoscience students have gone on to positions such as:

- Industrial Pretreatment Specialist, City of Denton Water Department
- Hydrologist, USGS New Mexico Water Science Center
- Air Quality Research Technician, Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences
- Field Geologist, Terracon Consultants Inc.
- Exploration Manager, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

Geography students have gone on to positions such as:

- Community Forestry Coordinator, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Planning Manager, Crawford Area Transportation Authority
- Water Quality Specialist, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Green Building Specialist, US Green Building Council
- GIS Coordinator, Hamblen County Tennessee

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Gamma Theta Upsilon – Geography honor society
- Geography, Geology, and the Environment Club – open to all interested students
- Sigma Gamma Epsilon – Environmental Geoscience honor society



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Krystal Levstek, '13

Network research coordinator, Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Akron, OH

"I greatly enjoy my work in the public service sector and use much of what I learned as an environmental studies major every day in my work. Environmental studies provided a larger cultural, geographical and economic focus on the sciences I already enjoyed studying."

Cody Cribbs, '12

Senior environmental technician, American Electric Power, Columbus, OH

"I love what I do for work and apply what I learned at SRU every day. It is so awesome to help the environment in any way that we can, but I get to do it for a living."

Chris Abbott, '10

GIS Technician, Hanover Engineering Associates Inc., Bradford, PA

"My environmental studies degree track at SRU provided me the building blocks to work as a Geographic Information Systems Technician and a foundation on which to continue my education in geospatial technology and environmental stewardship."

DEPARTMENT CONTACT:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.sru.edu/majors

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